

**MINUTES OF THE FAIRFAX COUNTY
TENANT-LANDLORD COMMISSION**

May 15, 2008

Fairfax County Government Center
12000 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, Virginia 22035
Conference Room #9
Landlord Vice-Chair Kocsis presiding

Attendees:

Commissioners: Geier-Smith, Kocsis, McRae,
Rosier, Gomez

Absentees:

Aho & Liff

Staff Attending:

Michael S. Liberman, Director
Cable Communications and Consumer
Protection
Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief
Consumer Affairs
Vee Johnson, Staff Liaison
Consumer Affairs Branch

The meeting was called to order at 7:35p.m. by Landlord Vice-Chair Kocsis

Minutes

The April 17, 2008, minutes were approved.

Reports

- Landlord Vice Chair Kocsis did not have any comments.
- **Committee reports** - There were no Committee reports.

Staff reports

- Liaison Johnson shared information about the topics to be discussed at the TLC Outreach event on Monday, May 19, 2008, at Reston Interfaith Inc. The presentation will be conducted at the Region 3 Department of Systems Management for Human Services building, located at 11484 Washington Plaza West, Room 140. The presentation starts at 7:00 p.m. Directions will be e-mailed to Commissioners.
- Liaison Johnson reviewed the TLC calendar. Information and activities will be updated on an ongoing basis.
- Liaison Johnson discussed the impact of mortgage foreclosures on the tenant-landlord community. Staff has received advice calls from tenants whose rental dwellings are facing foreclosure or have been foreclosed. Foreclosure trends in Fairfax County were discussed. The county is putting together a Web page that will provide resource information for renters as well as others dealing with foreclosure.
- Director Liberman informed that Dominion Virginia Power submitted a rate increase application to the State Corporation Commission for a rate increase. They are seeking an 18% increase of the fuel portion of bills. Staff will be monitoring the application process.
- Commissioners McRae inquired about the status of the Towing Ordinance Amendments. Director Liberman informed that there haven't been any revisions since the presentation by Chief Reidenbach at the April meeting. The Commission will be informed of any changes so input can be provided before the ordinance is presented to the Board of Supervisors.
- There were no questions or comments regarding the statistical reports.

Commission Matters

- The attendance record for May 2008, was circulated and approved.
- There are currently three vacancies, one landlord, one citizen, and one tenant. Director Liberman reminded Commissioners that the BAC coordinator will notify the Department when an appointment is made by the Board of Supervisors.

Old Business

1. Tenant-Landlord program for Cable Channel 16

- The Channel 16 Advisory Committee did not have a report.
- The Consumer Focus program on repairs and maintenance is no longer on the air. The Consumer Focus Program currently running is "Buying a Mattress", which provides tips on how to shop for a new mattress and information about the latest trends in the mattress industry.

2. Tenant-Landlord brochure

- The Tenant-Landlord brochure in Spanish was distributed to the Commissioners. Commissioners Kocsis and Gomez will review the brochure and provide comments. The County's Translation Verification Team will review and provide final approval.

New Business

1. A motion was made to take a meeting break the month of August. Four Commissioners voted in favor, one abstained. The motion was carried.
2. Liaison Johnson informed the Commission that Margaret Squires, Fair Housing Coordinator of the Fair Housing Program of the Fairfax County Human Rights Commission will be the speaker at the June 19th meeting.
3. The Commissioners would like to hear from the Supervisors on the Housing & Community Development Committee at the September 19, 2008, meeting. Catherine Hudgins is the Chairman, and John Foust is Vice-Chairman. Staff will extend an invitation.
4. Commissioner Rosier will bring lite fare for the June meeting.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:21p.m.